



WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

Pesticide Air Initiative Strategy to Reduce Toxic and Volatile Organic Compound Emissions from Agricultural and Commercial Structural Pesticides

In May 2006, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) launched a comprehensive initiative to improve air quality statewide. The initiative (which targets air toxins and smog-producing chemicals from pesticide emissions) will achieve state air quality goals for pesticides by 2008. The Pesticide Air Initiative will involve a regulatory framework that will exceed DPR's commitment to reduce volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from agricultural and commercial structural pesticides in nonattainment areas, as outlined in the 1994 State Implementation Plan (SIP). Our emphasis on reducing VOC emissions from pesticides will also be done in a way that reduces pesticide toxic risk and drift. The Pesticide Air Initiative will help California meet its future air quality challenges by providing the regulated community with viable options that will effectively reduce VOC emissions from pesticides. We are planning to develop these regulatory concepts and programmatic commitments into a strategy that will be a component of SIP 2007.

Workshop and Comment Period

We will hold three public workshops intended to solicit comments on various implementation options.

August 8, 6:00 PM

Courtyard Marriott
600 East Esplanade Drive
Oxnard, 93036

August 10, 2:00 PM

California Environmental Protection Agency
1001 I Street
Sacramento, 95814

August 14, 6:00 PM

Kearney Research & Extension
Center
9240 South Riverbend Avenue
Parlier, 93648

Written comments will be accepted until September 1. After evaluating public comments, DPR will prepare a formal draft strategy to reduce VOC emissions for public comment. We plan to submit a final strategy to the Air Resources Board in early 2007.



Strategy to Reduce Pesticide VOC and Toxic Emissions

We have identified a realistic strategy to achieve reductions that are measurable and enforceable. Our approach will advance the increased use of lower VOC-containing pesticides (e.g., via reformulation and switching products) and the adoption of application practices that reduce emissions (e.g., pesticide use reduction, VOC degradation, adsorption). Through our regulatory authority, VOC emission reductions can be enacted that will be reflected in the VOC emission inventory. These reductions will come from the use of lower VOC-containing products, reduction of VOC emissions on a per-acre basis, and from application methods that reduce VOC emissions.

Our focus for reducing pesticide VOC emissions will be based upon a reduction in VOC emissions from traditional pesticide applications, and upon a shift in pest control practices. To achieve these two goals, DPR will focus on reducing emissions from fumigants (which currently account for about one-fourth of all pesticide pounds applied annually); reformulating other pesticide products to reduce emissions and risks; promoting new, more environmentally friendly technologies; and developing strategic pest management partnerships in concert with the regulated community.

- Fumigant Emission Reductions.
 - *Application Emission Reductions.*
 - *Near Term Reductions: Four Tons/Day Reduction Initiated by May 2007.*
 - *Long-Term Reductions will be Developed.*
 - *Reducing the Reliance on Fumigants.*
- Managing Emissions from Liquid Emulsifiable Concentrates.
 - ***Reformulation - Near-Term Reductions: Estimated 2.0 tons/day initiated by January 2007.***
 - *Other Registration Requirements: Long-Term Reductions.*
- Adoption of Innovative Technologies: ***Long-Term Reductions.***
- Changes to Pest Management-***Long-Term Reductions.***
 - Strategic Pest Management Partnerships.
 - Pest Resistant Commodities.
 - Pest Exclusion.

Attached is a concept paper detailing options for these strategies.